Technical Bulletin

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Subject: Proper Use of Two Button Modular Dash Control Valves

Two button modular dash control valves are designed so that the control valves operate in the following manner:

- When the yellow (system park) button is pulled out, the trailer supply valve automatically "trips" and the red button "pops out". This operation applies the parking brakes of both the tractor and trailer and closes the "control" and "supply" lines to the trailer. (See Fig. 1)
- The red (trailer air supply) button may be subsequently pushed in. This
 operation releases the trailer parking brakes and supplies air to operate trailer
 auxiliary devices. (See Fig. 2)
- Pushing in both the yellow and red buttons releases both the tractor and trailer parking brakes and opens the trailer "control" and "supply" lines. (See Fig. 3)

It has come to our attention that some vehicle operators are using dash control valves improperly when parking combination vehicles, overriding the automatic function of the system by holding the red button in when pulling the yellow button. Bendix does not recommend parking combination vehicles in this manner, since this parks the tractor but does not park the trailer. Fig. 4 DEPICTS THE IMPROPER USE OF THE DASH CONTROL VALVE.

There may, however, be situations where it is desirable to release the trailer parking brakes while the tractor remains parked, by depressing the red button. This procedure is generally used with the vehicle attended, to enable the use of auxiliary devices on the trailer, i.e. pump-off.

Bendix has determined that if vehicles fitted with its MV-3 dash control valve are operated in a manner where the red button is not allowed to "pop out" automatically and the valve remains inoperative for extended periods, under pressure, this may impact its ability to function automatically during parking brake applications.

It is recommended that when parking, both yellow and red buttons should be in the outward position and whenever possible the engine should be off, with the vehicle in gear and the front wheels turned toward the curb. This procedure will ensure safe parking and proper operation of the dash control valves.



